

Attorney Docket No. 95121961.029004

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-41 (canceled).

42. (New) A method of modulating an input light beam, the input light beam comprising a first, a second, and a third primary color, the method comprising:

receiving the input light beam at a polarization stack filter that comprises a stack of birefringent layers and at least one active liquid crystal cell, the polarization stack filter receiving at least the first and second primary colors of the input light beam and operable to temporally modulate the polarizations of the first and second primary colors by imparting a polarization to the first primary color that is different from the polarization of the second primary color;

receiving the input light beam at a beam-splitting element, the beam-splitting element operable to direct the first and second primary colors in a first direction according to the modulation of the polarization stack filter and to direct the third primary color in a second direction;

sequentially receiving the first and second primary colors at a first panel and sequentially modulating the first and second primary colors;

receiving the third primary color at a second panel and modulating the third primary color; and

combining the light of the sequentially modulated first and second primary colors with the light of the third modulated primary color to form an output full-color modulated light beam.

43. (New) A method according to claim 42, wherein the third primary color is red.

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44. (New) A method according to claim 42, wherein the first and second panels are liquid crystal on silicon panels.

45. (New) A method according to claim 42, wherein the beam-splitting element comprises a polarizing beamsplitter.

46. (New) A method according to claim 42, wherein during a first time the first primary color has a first polarization and the second primary color has a second polarization and wherein during a second time the first primary color has the second polarization and the second primary color has the first polarization.

47. (New) A method according to claim 46, wherein the beam-splitting element comprises a polarizing beamsplitter that during the first time is operable to direct the first primary color to the first panel and during the second time is operable to direct the second primary color to the first panel.

48. (New) A two-panel color modulation device operable to receive an input light beam, the input light beam comprising a first, a second, and a third primary color, the modulation device comprising:

a polarization stack filter that comprises a stack of birefringent layers and at least one active liquid crystal cell, the polarization stack filter receiving at least the first and second

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primary colors of the input light beam and operable to temporally modulate the polarizations of the first and second primary colors;

a beam-splitting element, the beam-splitting element operable to direct the first and second primary colors in a first direction according to the modulation of the polarization stack filter and to direct the third primary color in a second direction;

a first panel which is operable to receive the first and second primary colors directed in the first direction from the beam splitting element and to sequentially modulate the first and second primary colors; and

a second panel which is operable to receive the third primary color directed in the second direction from the beam splitting element.

49. (New) A two-panel color modulation device according to claim 48, wherein the third primary color is red.

50. (New) A two-panel color modulation device according to claim 48, wherein the first and second panels are liquid crystal on silicon panels.

51. (New) A two-panel color modulation device according to claim 48, wherein the beam-splitting element comprises a polarizing beamsplitter.

52. (New) A two-panel color modulation device according to claim 48, wherein the polarization stack filter that comprises a stack of birefringent layers and at least one active liquid crystal cell is operable to temporally modulate the polarizations of the first and second primary

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colors wherein during a first time the first primary color has a first polarization and the second primary color has a second polarization and wherein during a second time the first primary color has the second polarization and the second primary color has the first polarization.

53. (New) A two-panel color modulation device according to claim 52, wherein the beam-splitting element comprises a polarizing beamsplitter that during the first time is operable to direct the first primary color to the first panel and during the second time is operable to direct the second primary color to the first panel.

54. (New) A two-panel color modulation device according to claim 48, and further comprising a clean-up polarizer after the beam-splitting element.

55. (New) A two-panel color modulation device according to claim 48, and further comprising a polarizer before the beam-splitting element.